

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095075
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG UN

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL PRESIDENCY

REFS: CAIRO 6507 AND MANILA 4133

1. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE BOTH EGYPT AND THE PHILIPPINES
HAVE CANDIDATES SEEKING THE POST OF PRESIDENT OF THE
WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. BOTH HAVE REQUESTED UNITED STATES
SUPPORT. BEFORE RESPONDING OFFICIALLY TO THE TWO GOVERN-
MENTS WE WISH EMBASSIES MANILA AND CAIRO TO APPROACH
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RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS ALONG LINES GIVEN BELOW.

2. BOTH EGYPT AND THE PHILIPPINES HAVE APPROACHED THE
UNITED STATES IN SUPPORT OF THEIR CANDIDATES, SAYED MAREI
AND ARTURO TANCO. BOTH GENTLEMEN ARE WELL AND FAVORABLY
KNOWN TO THE UNITED STATES AND WE FEEL BOTH ARE EMINENTLY
QUALIFIED TO HEAD THE COUNCIL.

3. THE WFC RULES DO CALL FOR GEOGRAPHIC ROTATION, BUT THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE PLEASED TO SUPPORT, AGAIN FOR 1977 AND 1978, THE ELECTION OF A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE PUT FORWARD BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

4. HOWEVER, WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT IT IS IN THE BEST

INTERESTS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO PUT FORWARD ONLY A SINGLE CANDIDATE RATHER THAN TO FORCE THE COUNCIL TO CHOOSE. SINCE WE UNDERSTAND BOTH COUNTRIES ARE SEEKING G-77 ENDORSEMENT AND SINCE THIS IS A MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE GROUP OF 77 REPRESENTATIVES IN ROME, WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR GOVERNMENT'S ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER THERE WILL BE A DEVELOPING COUNTRY CONSENSUS BEFORE THE PREPARATORY MEETING BEGINS MAY 9.

5. FOR ROME. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR LATEST ASSESSMENT OF THE STATE OF PLAY AMONG G-77 AND DC REPRESENTATIVES IN ROME.
VANCE

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